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SOME IMPORTANT TESTIMONY GIVEN AT FISHER HEARING BY IVERS ON LABOR AND IMMIGRATION

Fisher: At any rate.

mill would cost.

tenance and repairs?

\$38.40 here, a difference of \$1.60.

lvers: Immigration has nothing to

Fisher: Who brings in Filipinos?

a good marry Filipinos now?

lvers: The planters.

do with Filipinos.

Tells of Brewer & Co.'s Plantation Contracts with the Small Growers-Denies Stories of Immigrants Turned Out of Territorial Station Because Wouldn't Go to Certain Plantations

(On the last day of the Fisher hear- sugar at 4 cents provided the yield ing, Mr. Richard Ivers made one of was 45 tons, he would make a profit the most interesting statements of the of \$54.25. Forty tons yield would that Brewer & Co.'s plantations have yield of 45 tons, \$67.75; 40 tons, he

want to ask you a few questions that was high enough. In reference to the who represented the people? have been overlooked before, particu- Pahala contract, with sugar at 4 cents Atkinson As Vox Pouli. larly with regard to this matter that they would make \$9.63 a ton. Mr. Thurston has now explained as Fisher: Now, in figuring what the have been told that you are one of mill with interest? the men on the Islands who has made | Ivers: I do not, but I credit the a most careful study of the actual fi mill with depreciation. nancial study of the terms upon which contracts could be made with the homesteaders. Have you any in would charge as much as usual. Or-

made that the price paid for cane by of twenty years-I think possibly sev- ing a representative of the people. the plantations was altogether inad. enteen years might be fair; but a equate. Mr. Robertson and myself great many things on the plantation talked the situation over-as the will have to be renewed a number of plantations represented by Brewer & Company in Hilo were buying more cent. would be a fair rate of deprecia- of view? cane than any others. As a result tion. of that conversation, I went up in | Fisher: Six per cent. on what? that district and spent a month in1 the fields and investigated very fully. We decided on a uniform contract, which has since gone into effect, on the expiration of the old contracts | Ivers: Well, in that connection I That is, the contract was known as figure what we actually spend on a six per cent basis, the planter rais. maintenance. Any expense for bettering cane on his own land, we pay for ments are not figured in this account the cane when it is delivered along at all. side the flume six per cent on the Fisher: Will you send the stenograprice of sugar in New York. If it were 4 cents, or \$4.80 a ton in New vided the cane was of such quality to the mill, if you have no objection. have him return that way. that it only required eight tons of it The San Carlos Contract. to make a ton of sugar. The cane

Ivers: Yes, I do. I think it is very fair to both parties.

Fisher: Could you state what general return it ought, under general migration here. You are bringing in conditions, to yield to a plantation? Ivers: To the mill or to the plant-

er or both? Fisher: Well, it might be both, if you have the time, showing on what basis you arrived at that term. 1 would like to have it.

Figuring Profits. Ivers: In what way? Ivers: Four plantations represent-Fisher: Well, in the character of the ed by Brewer & Co. produced 4751 tons of cane from 6475 acres. Average men who are induced to come hereprice per ton of cane was \$4.25 and the fact that they are not subject to migrants who wanted to go to certain them over at the actual in this connection I will say that a the same restrictions or examination ! comparatively large portion was rais- that would be accorded them if they ed on plantation land. The average came from a foreign country. per acre received by the planter was Well Examined. 132. The average yield per acre was livers: Well, Mr. Secretary, these 45 tons. Now I assumed that a third people are examined over there before there were only one or two who were of the area was plant cane, and two- their departure by the Federal people forced out of that station. thirds rattoons. I assumed that pro- in the Philippines-the most rigid exvided the planter had his own money amination is made. and did not have advances from the Fisher: Is that done under the Philplantation, it would cost him \$126.50 ippine government? to raise plant cane-from the time he livers: It is done at the request of ed the secretary that they were mereput the seed in the ground until the the planters and with the cooperation ly waiting for an opportunity to leave time he harvested the cane, including of the Philippine government, but at for the Coast. all charges, per acre. I assumed the expense of the planters.

that for rattoons it cost him \$98. Fisher: In other words, if there is Therefore the average cost would be any justification for the complaint, and selected these people. When the two crops rattoons \$98 and one that could be checked by calling the first shipments of Russians arrived crop plant \$126, the average would be attention of the Philippine government here there was no trouble. But af-\$107.50. He received \$107.50; he to it, and showing that their officials ter some of those people had been a your surplus lands and divide it up probably made \$190. Now I figured imposed at least the same restricon that contract that with sugar at tions as the immigration officials began drifting back to Honolulu. A Not 1,000 Acres in All. 31-2 cents at New York the mill here. would make \$4.65 per ton and I will lvers: Yes. say now that the advantage of this, Fisher: Now, there has also been contract is that when sugar is at a good deal of complaint called to my high price, their profits increase; attention and some of it I may say ed to be that they said they had been with sugar at \$3.75 the mill would by men officially connected with the promised \$45 a month, whereas they make \$6.74 a ton; with sugar at 4 plantation—men in the actual and re- were promised 45 roubles a month. cents the mill would make \$9.08; with sponsible employ of the plantation, sugar at 4.25 cents, the mill would who have told me that they did not make \$11.42, with sugar at 4.50 cents like to come out openly-who said the mill would make \$13.78 per ton; they thought there was a serious understood that those people were with sugar at 4.7 5cents, the mill abuse in the manner in which the im- given to understand that the amount would make \$16.10 a ton; with sugar migrants which have been brought of money that they were going to get at 5 cents, \$18.45. On the same basis, here from the mainland—I mean from here would be equal to \$45 as dis- law is concerned, have formed one the planter, provided he received 45 outside-have been treated upon and

He would receive \$81.50 gross for the ed loose here in many instances, two-year crop. erop and rattoon crop he would make or more months, during which they per year \$40.75.

Ivers: Yes. If, in the event of all and were compelled to accept almost of the advances being made by the any old thing. What do you know plantation, I figure he would have to about that? pay 10 dollars in interest for two Statement Called Untrue. years, or \$5 a year per acre. On 40 Ivers: I consider that not only tons of sugar per acre at 3.50 I as- that statement not true, but that it is



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the station-those cases have been ex-

tremely rare.

a difference of opinion, but that has always been on minor points, incre has never been any project of any considerable importance that he has introduced that has been turned down. Fisher: The Board usually has two representatives of sugar interestswhat would the other people repre-Ivers: One of them is a local at-

torney, the other a business man, enentire investigation. He was recalled make a profit of \$43.25; 35 tons would to rney, the other a business man, ento the stand to answer some quest make a profit of \$32.25. With sugar gaged in the newspaper business here. tions as to cane-growing contracts at 4.50 cents, he would make from a Fisher: Is there anybody on the Board that might be said to represent negotiated with the small growers, would make a profit of \$55.25; from the laboring man? Don't you think and also with regard to labor immi- 35 tons, he would make a profit of that the efficiency of a board of that \$42.75. I didn't take it any higher kind as a whole would be improved if Secretary Fisher: Mr. Ivers, I than that because I thought 4.50 cents there was somebody on that board

Ivers: I think Mr. Atkinson could be said to represent the people. He to that contract with the plantation, mill would make, do you credit the has been a member of the board since its inception since 1905.

> Fisher: What is his employment? Ivers: An attorney. Fisher: How does he, an attorney,

Ivers: Well, in that connection I come to be so regarded? Ivers: Well, he has always been dinarily speaking, everything on the closely identified with immigration Ivers: There was a complaint plantation has to be renewed inside and is looked upon generally as be-

Fisher: And you think that there is a feeling that Mr. Atkinson perhaps rightly or wrongly does undertimes. However, I figure about 6 per stand and sympathize with their point

Ivers ! I think so. Well, in that regard I will say that I discussed it with the Governor and I thought there Ivers: Six per cent. on what a good should be an active head of that Department who would do practically all Fisher: I suppose you figure mainof the work and would be independ-

Fisher: That is the work of Mr. Clark? Ivers: Yes that is the work of Dr.

Clark. Fisher: How soon is he likely to return? Will he return through pher a memorandum of the figures-Washington?

I wish to get them correctly. I would Ivers: I think he will probably re-Fisher: Mr. Ashford, you want to Ivers: No objection at all. There ask any question?

ed a fair opportunity to make their Fisher: \$1.60 better than here; la- own selection—isn't that true?

Facts of Distribution. bor conditions are more favorable. Ivers: No, that is not true. The That brings me to the question of imcircumstances are these: Most of these people arrive here-most of them come here because they receive letters from friends and relatives who were working at different plantations in the Islands. On the arrival of the vessel here, a great many people Fisher: I have been told that there has been a great deal of abuse of where they wanted to go and they expressed a desire to go to those plantations, and as far as possible, they were dispatched to those plantations. In certain cases they were more implantations than could be accommodated and they were finally persuaded to go to some other plantations.

Ashford: What was done? Ivers: They were kept down there-Ashford: Why were they forced

Ivers: Because they refused to accept anything. Their attitude convinc-

In regard to the Russians, Mr. Atkinson himself went over to Russia lands and only those lands, and anlittle while on the plantations, they number of these people were in Honolulu when the first shipment of Mr. Atkinson's arrived. There was some trouble. The whole controversy seem-That is all that Mr. Atkinson prom-

ised them-45 roubles. Ashford: Has it not been generally tinguished from roubles.

tons per acre, with sugar at 3.50, he shortly after their arrival. That is to No Misrepresentation. would make \$40.75 per acre per year. say, that these people have been turnam convinced otherwise. Mr. Atkin- t . this time. where they have been left without son was so much interested - such a Thurston Gives Kinney's Position. Fisher: In other words, on plant employment for a period of two, three strong advocate of the introduction of Mr. Thurston: There is one point Russian people here-that I think he I intended to speak of-of the statetook particular pains to convince these | ment made to me by Mr. Kinney in had little or nothing to depend upon people, but as a matter of fact these regard to obtaining evidence unlawpeople were mostly mechanics and fully. I was away at the time and there were no opportunities to find any when I returned I asked him and he employment for them. I visited the made a statement to me. Iron Works and Mr. Hedemann agreed Fisher: I chink it is fair for you to employ a number of them at the to state what he told you. sume he would make a profit of \$31 - a malicious statement, Under our law, Iron Works. At the same time we did Thurston: I want to state in the 25; 35 tons per acre yield, I assume we can provide and take care of these secure employment for a number of first instance that I have known Mr. would make a profit of \$21.75. With people for only a reasonable length of them throughout the town as mechan. Kinney ever since he was knee night time-somtimes a man arrives there ics-several to Mr. Craig. He after to the table there, and in my opinion and is offered different places of em. wards came back and told us that there was no more public spirited or ployment and refuses to accept them they were not mechanics.

the expense of the Territory-there they had been recruited for plantation from others I will always give him the have been a few such cases, where they have been forcibly removed from

Ashford: What was the general reason why they would not go out Dr. Clark was appointed executive and take agricultural work? officer of the Immigration Station. As

far as we knew, he was not interested had been promised \$45 a month. firancially or in any other way, in the Territory and was absolutely an in-sources that an investigation was violation of the laws, and the chief dependent outsider. Since he assum- made and the matter was adjusted- evidence which was necessary to the ed that office, he has had practically | Ivers: Well, no; finally some of government consisted of some private a free hand-he had not been restrict. I them did finally go up to the planta- papers. . The prosecution got out a tions, but others would not. As an statement and compelled him to get Fisher: I have been told that he indication, there are about 250 Rus these papers-they were to be u.ed has not been given a free hand-that sians working on the plantation, in the prosecution against him. The whether by restraint or by indirect re- whereas there are a little over 1000 court ruled that those papers could straint he has not been in a position who have been brought here.

to carry out fully or freely the prop- As to Co-Partnership Plan. Fisher: Were you-was Brewer man testify against himself. In con-Ivers: He has been given practic- Company interested in the passage of sequence, the porsecution failed. Now ally a free hand. Of course, there this law-this partnership law?

York we would pay 6 per cent, pro- like to get the basis of your profit turn through Washington. You can of these companies that are connected ing for evidence against the defendas subsidiaries to our plantation that ants. Now, he said, "I had the opinwere formed prior to the Organic Act. ion was absolutely conclusive-I had ! One was engaged in the coffee busi- the decision of the Supreme Court raised upon lands owned by the is one further feature. It is contend. Ashford: Mr. Ivers, isn't it a fact ness; the coffee buisiness failed and that if I got out a warrant, that those plantation paid \$4.50 or \$4.40, if the ed that the San Carlos Milling Com- that when parties come here, they they gradually turned the land into papers could not be used-I also had price of sugar were \$4.80. (Mr. Ivers pany is far more favorable with their are assigned to go to different plan- planting cane. I also wish to explain a decision of the Supreme Court that then described the terms in detail.) contract than any contract that has tations and if they make any object that as to these land companies, that if some evidence could be produced Fisher: Well, now, this general been offered here. The San Carlos tion they can go as they are assigned were formed by Brewer & Company in the court, whether obtained law-Milling Company contract with sugar or get out of the station entirely-in in connection with Brewer & Com- fully of not, so long as it was not obdo you, is a fair contract to both par. at four cents, pays \$40 as against other words, that they are not allow-Co., as a good investment of their court, is could be used against the own have bought lands throughout the defendant. Therefore I was faced with islands which the plantations have this alternative. If I proceeded in a leased from them. Brewer & Co. nev-lawful manner, I could not make uie er bought these lands at the time with of the evidence, and the prosecution the idea of selling them to the plan- would fail. The case was such an tation. They bought them simply as important one. There was being run a good investment. These lands have a government within a government. increased very materially in value - He was faced with the alternative of we paid small sums for a good many getting that evidence by this unlawful HENRY MAY & CO. knew the names of the plantations of them. The directors decided that means and convicting these men and whereas we have been agents and are bringing them to justice, or by proacting in their interest, the land we ceeding by lawful means and falling bought should really belong to those And in his dilemma, he took the course he did.

plantations. Fisher: Your idea was to turn

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Ivers: At the actual cost to us at that time. None of these plantations own a share of stock in Brewer & Co. The five companies formed by Brewer & Co. represented five plantations. Fisher: Was the property divided these corporations?

Ivers: The land had been bought in the sphere of a certain plantation, -that it the land in the locality of each plantation was assigned to it.

Fisher: What I mean is this: Did you organize recently a new corporation to take over these particular other corporation to take over the lands in another locality and only those lands, or did you take all of arbitrarily?

Ivers: The whole land collectively would not amount to 1,000 acres. Fisher: So that the impression that has been created that each of them held a little below a thousand acres

Ivers: That is entirely incorrect. Fisher: So that we know they did not quite fall within the class of those corporations that we spoke of? Ivers: I will admit that they were subsidiary corporations.

Fisher: You could so far as this corpration?

Ivers: Brewer & Company is a cor-Ivers: I don't think so. In fact, I poration and it has held them all up

better man in this community-while -he merely wishes to remain there at Ashford: They were introduced - he has eccentricities and differences Kinney's standing. Why Kinney Acted.

When I asked hun why he had done this, which is on the face of it contracy Ivers: They maintained that they to law, he made this statement to me. There was some years ago a prosecu-Ashford: I understand from other tion against a man in this town for not be used against him as it would be against the constitution to make a Mr. Kinney simply referred to this as have been at different times perhaps! Ivers: In no way. There are three being a fact facing him in his search-

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